REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the carefully considering this application.

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-17 are pending in this application. Claim 17 has been cancelled with this response. Claims 1, and 9 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 9.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to clarify the present invention. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of "creating a plurality of delta CRLs from multiple generations of CRLs wherein the plurality of delta CRLs," "merging the plurality of delta CRLs to create a single merged delta CRL," and "sending the single merged delta CRL to the CRL recipient after merging the plurality of delta CRLs". Further, claim 9 has been amended to include similar limitations as amended independent claim 1. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Figure 5 and on page 8 line 24 – page 9 line 13. Applicant asserts that no new subject matter has been added by way of these claim amendments.

Request for Examiner Interview

Applicant respectfully requests an Examiner Interview on December 1, 2005 at 11:00 AM (EST) or at a date/time convenient for all parties. An Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form is attached to this response.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,687,235 ("Perlman"). To the extent that the rejection still applies to amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention relates to creating a merged delta certificate revocation list (CRL) that represents changes between multiple generations of digital certificate revocation lists. Specifically, with each new generation of CRL that is created, a delta CRL is also created which representing the changes between the previous generation and the new generation. Accordingly, as multiple generations of CRLs are created, multiple delta CRLs are also created. When a CRL recipient requests the current CRL and multiple generations of CRLs have passed between the latest owned CRL of the CRL recipient and the current CRL (which the CRL recipient requests), the multple delta CRLs which have been created are merged to create a single merged delta CRL. The single merged delta CRL is sent to the CRL recipient. Accordingly, the amended claims require, in part, that multiple delta CRLs are merged to create a single merged delta CRL and the single merged delta CRL is sent to the CRL recipient after performing the merging operation.

Turning to the rejection, for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102, the reference must teach or suggest every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. The Applicant respectfully asserts that Perlman does not teach or suggest merging multiple delta CRLs and sending the single merged delta CRL to the CRL recipient after performing the merging.

Specifically, Perlman only teaches a sending a delta CRL which is simply produced by querying the database for the certificates revoked since a timestamp provided by the CRL recipient. If the delta CRL is too large, then the delta CRL is divided and sent as incremental changes to the CRL recipient. Thus, if the delta CRL is too large, Perlman teaches sending multiple delta CRLs. The *CRL recipient* must then continuously append the contents of the successive incremental CRL to obtain the current CRL. (*See, e.g.*, Perlman col 8 ll. 56 - col. 9. ll. 28). Accordingly, in Perlman, the sender divides the delta CRL into multiple delta CRLs and the CRL recipient, not the sender, performs the operations of combining the multiple delta CRLs. Perlman is completely silent with respect to sending a single merged delta CRL by a sender to a CRL recipient after merging a plurality of delta CRLs to create the single merged delta CRL as recited in the amended claims.

In view of the above, it is clear Perlman does not support this rejection of amended independent claims 1 and 9. Accordingly, dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-12, and 14-16, which
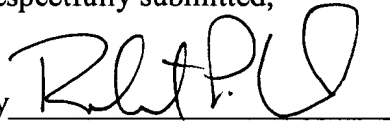
depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 9, are allowable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/534001; SUN6053).

Dated: October 11, 2005   Respectfully submitted,

By_____

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Attachment   (Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form)

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